

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 /058 W

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P R 221438Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 671

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAGUA 3477

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, NU

SUBJECT: SOMOZA ON EL SALVADOR-HONDURAN DISPUTE

REF: STATE 179290

1. DURING MEETING WITH PRESIDENT SOMOZA LATE THIS AFTERNOON (JULY 21), HE MENTIONED THAT EL SALVADOR FONMIN BORGONOVO HAD VISITED NICARAGUA ON JULY 16TH TO ENLIST GON COOPERATION IN BRINGING ABOUT PULLBACK OF BORDER FORCES AND ACTING AS GURANATOR OF PEACE UNDER 1970 SAN JOSE AGREEMENT.

2. SOMOZA SAID THAT CYE COSTA RICAN AND GUATEMALAN GOVERNMENTS HAD BEEN CONTACTED AND BOTH REFUSED TO BECOME INVOLVED IN TROOP WITHDRAWAL NEGOTIATIONS, BORDER OBSERVATION OR OTHER ROLE IN DISPUTE SETTLEMENT. THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THEIR RETICENCE, BUT FELT THAT BOTH COUNTRIES WERE BEING SHORT-SIGHTED. NICARAGUA WAS PREPARED TO ASSIST BUT MUST ACT IN CONCERT WITH OTHXJ GUARANTOR STATES.

3. ACCORDING TO SOMOZA, INTELLIGENCE SOURCES IN HONDURAS REPORT.. A RISING SPIRIT OF REVENGE AMONGST THE MILITARY LEADERSHIP. HE
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BELIEVED THAT AN ARMED ATTACK ON EL SALVADOR IS LIKELY OVER THE

NEXT THREE MONTHS. THE SITUATION, HE FELT, WAS EXTREMELY DANGEROUS.

4. SOMOZA REGRETTED THAT THE USG, THE CENTRAL AMERICAN GOVERNMENTS, AND THE OAS WERE UNABLE TO ACT SEPARATELY, OR IN CONCERT, TO FACILITATE TROOP WITHDRAWALS, BORDER GUARANTIES, AND A LOWERING OF TENSIONS. THEBERGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, BORDER INCIDENTS, INTERNATIONAL PEACEKEEPING FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MANAGU03477
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760282-0479
From: MANAGUA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760733/aaaabcja.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 179290
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOMOZA ON EL SALVADOR-HONDURAN DISPUTE
TAGS: PFOR, NU, ES, HO, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006